## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)

**PCT** 

## (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/059970 A2

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:

H01L

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/042880

(22) International Filing Date:

17 December 2004 (17.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/530,385 17 December 2003 (17.12.2003) US 60/587,637 13 July 2004 (13.07.2004) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

## **Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

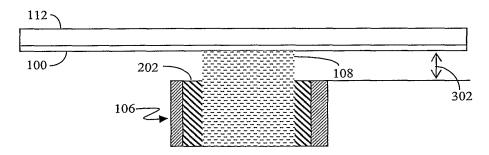
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

## Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CONTROLLING REMOVAL RATE UNIFORMITY OF AN ELECTROPOLISHING PROCESS IN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT FABRICATION



(57) Abstract: An electropolishing process in integrated circuit fabrication on a wafer includes applying a stream of electrolyte to the wafer using a nozzle positioned adjacent to the wafer with a gap between the nozzle and the wafer. The removal rate uniformity of the electropolishing process is controlled by adjusting the gap between the nozzle and the wafer to adjust the removal rate profile of the stream of electrolyte applied by the nozzle.

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